



Docket No.: 265362

TECH CENTER 1800/2800

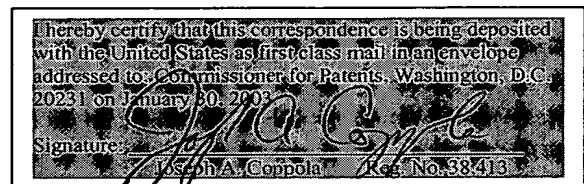
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : THORSON et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 09/993,757  
FILED : November 27, 2001  
FOR : **MOLECULAR BREAK LIGHTS PROBES FOR  
DETECTING NUCLEOTIDE CLEAVAGE**  
EXAMINER: To be assigned  
GROUP ART UNIT : 1641

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115**

SIR:

Prior to action on the merits, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Enclosed herewith are new Figures 1-8 as well as an Information Disclosure Statement.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

At page 11, delete the paragraph at lines 7-12, that refers to Figure 5.

Please amend the specification by replacing the following paragraphs as indicated:

At page 11, the paragraph beginning on line 13:

**Figure 5.** Cleavage of break light A by  $\text{Fe}^{+2}$ -dependent agents. (a) The observed DNA cleavage over time of an assay containing a constant 3.2 nM break light A at 37 °C (50 mM sodium phosphate, 2.5 mM ascorbate, pH 7.5;  $\lambda_{\text{Ex}}$  = 485 nm,

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